

Nottingham City Council

Responses to consultation

REVIEW OF AGE POLICY FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE ALLOCATIONS POLICY

PH – Private Hire HC = Hackney Carriage NK – Not Known MoP – Member of the public

Ref no	PH, HC, NK, MoP	Summary of respondents comments	Authority's appraisal of comments	Authority's response with regard to the proposed policy
1	HC	Concern raised about the impact on the HC trade of re-issuing unused HCV licences following the Covid-19 pandemic. Vehicles having to wait longer on the ranks for customers.	The respondent is the owner of a policy compliant vehicle and is concerned that if more vehicles come back onto the fleet he will have to wait longer for customers. However, the Council is entitled to issue up to 420 licences and does not have reason to refuse to do so. The primary role of the Council is as licensing authority, the adequate provision of HCVs and the protection of the travelling public not to safeguard individual trade for those that it licences. The Allocation Policy is required to ensure the fair distribution of unused and available HC vehicle licences.	No change proposed to Policy.
2	HC	HC proprietor doesn't want unused plates to be reallocated & would like more time to buy a	Hackney Carriage proprietors have been aware of the proposed changes in the Council's Age and	No change proposed to Policy

		<p>compliant HC following the impact of Covid-19 & peoples travel habits have not returned to normal.</p>	<p>Specification Policy since 2017/18. In addition proprietors have had over 18 months since the policy became effective to make arrangements to purchase Policy compliant vehicles. The Allocation Policy is required to ensure the fair distribution of unused and available HC vehicle licences. Proprietors are being given until the end of September to go on the waiting list and then a further 3 months to either licence a compliant HC or confirm that they have ordered one. This has effectively given proprietors an additional 2 years after the relevant part of the Age and Specification Policy came into effect.</p> <p>The Council has a cap of 420 HCs which cannot be changed without an Unmet Demand Survey. Not practicable to hold one at this time as the impact of the pandemic would distort the results. However it is appropriate that the Council makes any unallocated licences available as the economy is now picking up to ensure that there is appropriate</p>	
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			provision of HCVs within the public transport system	
3	HC	<p>HC proprietor written on behalf of himself and 2 other proprietors. Supports an allocation policy with some reservations and thanks Council for giving those who have previously held licences some sort of priority</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raises various comments about the background section of the Policy consultation paper 2. Felt having to buy a compliant vehicle before 30 September and make applications for policy compliant vehicles or 3. surrender their licence is unfair and unreasonable Suggests current HCV plate holders be given until 30/04/2022 to submit an application or return plates. 4. Requests previous plate holders be given priority to retain a specific plate number 5. States the waiting list 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This section was for information during the consultation and did not form part of the proposed Policy being consulted on. It is clear that previous licences have expired and no longer exists. The person responding is under the misapprehension they would be “renewing” a licence which is not the case. The licences have expired and no longer exist and cannot therefore be renewed but previously licensed proprietors are afforded a form of “priority” under the proposed Policy 2. Expressions of interest are required by 30 September then applicants are given a further 3 months to buy or confirm order for a compliant vehicle. Previous licence holders are not being asked to 	No change proposed to Policy .

		<p>should be just for those who have returned their plates or new applicants not for proprietors who have retained their plates and who should be given priority.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Highlighted a numbering mistake in the consultation document. 7. Wants proprietors who have retained their plates to be given longer than 3 months to bring on a compliant HC 8. Would like the Council to provide grants/interest free loans to help proprietor buy replacement vehicles. 	<p>surrender their licence as the licences have already expired and no longer exist. There is nothing to surrender. If an Expression of interest is not received by 30 September previous proprietors will lose the “priority” that the proposed Policy gives them to come onto the Nottingham City Fleet.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. This would mean a further 8 months of possibly reduced numbers of HCs operating in the City at a time when the economy is starting to re-open and increased numbers of people are returning to the City. 4. Previously proprietors have been permitted to retain their plate number and they would be allowed to if they submit an expression of interest and purchase a policy compliant vehicle. 5. One waiting list is required 	
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			<p>to manage the issues of HC plates fairly. Whilst the proposed policy does recognise the effects of the pandemic on previous proprietors and affords them limited priority in law there should be no expectation that just because a proprietor has held a licence which has expired that they should be granted a new one. The Council has allowed proprietors a considerable amount of time to adhere to its Age and specification Policy and with the proposed Allocation Policy they will have had 2 years to commit to purchasing a Policy Compliant vehicle and known about the requirement for approximately 4 years. Given the upturn in the economy it is not appropriate to extend the time for allowing them to do so any further and the Council should proceed to</p>	
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			<p>issue all available licences up to the maximum number of 420</p> <p>6. Noted -this doesn't affect the policy.</p> <p>7. Already covered in the response at 5 above</p> <p>8. the Council is not in a position to be able to offer loans to proprietors for their personal businesses or take on the associated financial risks ,it does however need to ensure that appropriate provision of safe and suitable hackney carriages are available for the travelling public To encourage uptake of ULEV hackney taxis the Council is offering up to £3,464 of financial support. This includes contributions to vehicle licence fees & MOT over 3 years; first year insurance; standard vehicle livery; meter installation and a new home charge point or charging allowance</p>	
4	HC	Would like to buy a compliant HC but requests more time due to the	Hackney Carriage proprietors have been aware of the proposed	No change proposed to Policy .

		<p>impact of the pandemic and inability to get a bank loan.</p>	<p>changes in the Council's Age and Specification Policy since 2017/18. In addition, proprietors have had over 18 months since the policy became effective to make arrangements to purchase Policy compliant vehicles. The Allocation Policy is required to ensure the fair distribution of unused and available HC vehicle licences. Proprietors are being given until the end of September to go on the waiting list and then a further 3 months to either licence a compliant HC or confirm that they have ordered one. This has effectively given proprietors an additional 2 years after the relevant part of the Age and Specification Policy came into effect.</p> <p>The Council has a cap of 420 HCs which cannot be changed without an Unmet Demand Survey. Not practicable to hold one at this time as the impact of the pandemic would distort the results. However it is appropriate that the Council makes any unallocated licences available as the economy is now picking up to</p>	
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5	HC	Not in favour of a reallocation policy wants the Council to help support him and other drivers & wants more time to get his finances sorted in order that he can buy a euro6/ULEV HC.	<p>Hackney Carriage proprietors have been aware of the proposed changes in the Council's Age and Specification Policy since 2017/18. In addition, proprietors have had over 18 months since the policy became effective to make arrangements to purchase Policy compliant vehicles. The Allocation Policy is required to ensure the fair distribution of unused and available HC vehicle licences. Proprietors are being given until the end of September to go on the waiting list and then a further 3 months to either licence a compliant HC or confirm that they have ordered one. This has effectively given proprietors an additional 2 years after the relevant part of the Age and Specification Policy came into effect.</p> <p>The Council has a cap of 420 HCs which cannot be changed without an Unmet Demand Survey. Not practicable to hold one at this time as the impact of</p>	. No change proposed to Policy

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